Supply of solvent to Petrol Pumps in Delhi

869. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a few tanker owners have been supplying solvent to a number of petrol pumps in Delhi, whose residence are reported to have been raided by the Delhi Police in May, 2000;

(b) if so, the names of the petrol pump owners who had been receiving solvent from these tankers for mixing in the petrol;

(c) whether these petrol pumps are still functioning; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) On 15th May, 2000, Delhi Police found M/s Allied Motor, Preet Vihar Delhi, a retail outlet dealer unloading some products in Unleaded petrol tank. The samples drawn by the Police failed in the lab. Test. The retail outlet was terminated on 18.5.2000.

Petrol and Gas reserves in West Bengal, Orissa and NE States

870. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the steps taken or being taken to find out new reserves of petrol and gas in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and NE States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): Steps taken/being taken for exploration of hydrocarbons by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Private/Joint Venture Companies, in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and North Eastern States include:

West Bengal:

During the years, 1997—2000, ONGC has acquired 491 Ground Line Kilometre (GLK) of 2D and 2062 GLK of 3D seismic data besides carrying out re-testing of well Ichapur-1. During the years 2000—02, ONGC plans to acquire 200 GLK of seismic data in Bengal basin. ONGC has initiated preliminary geological surveys in Raniganj area for exploration of Coal Bed Methane (CBM). One block in Raniganj area has also been awarded by Government to a private party for exploration and production on CBM.